

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00163 051013Z
ACTION SS-25

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P 050616Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5309

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 0163

EXDIS

FOR NEA (SOBER) AND PM (ERIKSON)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PK, US
SUBJECT: 1978 IMET PROGRAM TO PAKISTAN

REF: A) STATE 306647 B) ISLAMABAD 12536 C) STATE 309089

1. IN MISSION REVIEW OF SPECIFIC IMET SCHEDULING, IT IS CLEAR THAT MAIN CRUNCH INVOLVING UNAVOIDABLE GOP KNOWLEDGE OF CURTAILMENT WILL OCCUR IN EARLY FEBRUARY, 1978. FOR THIS REASON, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS INITIATION OF NO FORMAVACUT-OFF ACTIONS -- EVEN AT EXPENSE OF PENALTY PAYMENTS FOR NON-ATTENDANCE -- ON FY 78 IMETP. EMBASSY FURTHER URGES EARLIEST CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ALONG LINES DISCUSSED PARA 3 REFTEL (C) SO THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO AVOID ACTUAL INTERRUPTION OF PROGRAM WHICH WE CONTINUE TO REGARD AS VITAL TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CURRENT RULERS OF THIS COUNTRY AND WITH THOSE WHO WILL HOLD ULTIMATE POWER HERE EVEN AFTER RESUMPTION OF CIVILIAN RULE. SUGGESTED BRIEFING NOTES FOR CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

2. DETAILS OF SPECIFIC IMPACT OF PROPOSED CUTOFF OF IMET FUNDING FOR FY 78 ARE AS INDICATED BELOW (DATES SHOWN ARE THOSE ON WHICH TRAINEES ARE EXPECTED TO REPORT TO CONUS

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SCHOOLS; IN-COUNTRY PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFINGS ARE NORMALLY CONDUCTED SEVERAL WEEKS PRIOR BUT THIS CAN BE COMPRESSED IF NEED BE);

A. SECOND QUARTER FY-78:
- JAN - ONE PAK AIR FORCE (PAF) TRAINEE; 27 JAN .
(ODRP IS REQUESTING DSAA TO POSTPONE THIS

ONE UNTIL LATER IN FY 78, ACCEPTING, IF NECESSARY, PAYMENT OF LATE DROP-OUT PENALTY COST).

- FEB- TOTAL OF TEN TRAINEES

5 PAK NAVY (PN) - 13 FEB.; 27 FEB.

3 PAK ARMY (PA) - 19 FEB.; 21 FEB.

2 PAF - 22 FEB.

- MAR- TOTAL OS SIX TRAINEES

1 PA - 17 MARCH

3 PN - 20 MARCH

2 PAF - 22 MARCH

B. THIRD QUARTER FY-78

- APRIL 8 TRAINEES (4PA/2PN/2PAF)

- MAY 5 TRAINEES (1PA/4PN)

- JUNE 7 TRAINEES (2PA/1PN/4PAF)

C. FOURTH QUARTER FY-78

- JULY 10 TRAINEES (4PA/4PN/2PAF)

- AUG 2 TRAINEES (2 PN)

- SEPT 4 TRAINEES (1PA/2PN/1PAF)

3. THUS, A TOTAL OF 55 PAK MILITARY WOULD BE AFFECTED, BEGINNING WITH A BATCH OF TEN IN FEBRUARY IF FY 78 IMETP IS TERMINATED (15 OTHERS IN FY 78 PROGRAM ARE ALREADY IN CONUS). IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ONE OF THE TEN SLATED FOR FEBRUARY IS A PN OFFICER SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AN EXPENSIVE TWO-YEAR COURSE ON 13 FEB. OUR GO/NO-GO DATE FOR HIM IS ABOUT 1 FEBRUARY, ALTHOUGH EVEN IF WE WERE TO CANCEL HIS GOING SECRET

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NOW, PENALTY COST TO PROGRAM WOULD BE VERY HIGH. FOUR OTHER PN PERSONNEL INCLUDED IN FEBRUARY BATCH WILL UNDER-TAKE TRAINING IN CONNECTION WITH TURNOVER OF TWO EX-US GEARING-CLASS DDS TO PN. OUR GO/NO-GO DATE ON THESE WILL BE NOT LATER THAN 15 FEBRUARY. TWO PN TRAINEES IN MARCH AND TWO IN MAY ARE ALSO IN CONNECTION WITH GEARING DD PROGRAM.

4. IN VIEW OF ADMIRAL WEISNER'S PLANNED VISIT HERE LATER THIS MONTH, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THIS MESSAGE, TOGETHER WITH REFTELS, BE REPEATED TO CINCPAC FOR INFO. HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

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